

REMARKS

Claims 1,2, 6-10, 12-14, 16, and 17 will be pending upon entry of the present amendment. Claims 1, 6-8, and 16 have been amended and claims 3-5 and 15 have been canceled.

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 12-14 and indicating the allowable subject matter of claims 5-6 and 16-17. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 5 together with that of intervening claim 3, and claim 16 has been placed in independent form. Claims 6-8 have been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 6 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's recommendation in order to overcome the objection of the recent Office Action.

The specification has been amended to update the claim of priority with the patent number of the issued parent of the present application.

In view of the amendments outlined above, applicants understand that all the claims are now in condition for allowance. Thus, the rejections presented in the recent Office Action are moot, and therefore will not be addressed herein.


In the event the Examiner finds minor informalities that can be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is urged to contact applicants' undersigned representative at (206) 694-4848 in order to expeditiously resolve prosecution of this application.

Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,

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